

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5821
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
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C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1250

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, MASS, LY, UK, GW
SUBJECT: BRITISH/GERMAN HEAVY DUTY TRUCK SALES

1. EMBOFF OVERHEARD A CONVERSATION SEPTEMBER 7 BETWEEN BRITISH AND WEST GERMAN COMMERCIAL OFFICERS. LATTER WAS SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT UK FIRM OF SCAMMELLS WAS IN THE PROCESS OF "FINAL-IZING" SALE OF 200 HEAVY DUTY "6 X 6" TRUCK/TRAILERS DIRECTLY THROUGH THE PROCUREMENT OFFICE OF THE LIBYAN ARMY. HE STATED GERMAN FIRM OF KAELEBLE HAD RECENTLY "SOLD" THIRTY "6 X 4" HEAVY DUTY TRANSPORTERS TO LIBYA BUT HAD SOLD THEM TO THE AGRICULTURE SECRETARIAT AND NOT TO THE MILITARY.

2. COMMENT: THE BRITISH HAVE NOT TOLD US FOR CERTAIN THAT SCAMMELLS HAVE COMPLETED A TRANSPORTER DEAL WITH THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT. SEVEN NEW GERMAN KAELEBLE TRANSPORTERS, HOWEVER, WERE RECENTLY SEEN CARRYING U.S.-BUILT APCS, AND SOME HAVE BEEN OBSERVED HAULING TANKS ON HIGHWAY. WE CANNOT CONFIRM WHETHER THESE ARE THE SAME TRUCK/TRAILERS MENTIONED BY THE GERMAN COMMERCIAL OFFICER OR WERE PURCHASED AT AN EARLIER DATE.
EAGLETON

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Message Attributes

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